

DockLines

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THE SANTA BARBARA WATERFRONT DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2007

Editor: Mick Kronman
Art Director: Brian Slagle



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DockLines

Contact Numbers

Business Office: (805) 564-5531

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday through Friday
8:00 a.m. to noon
1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Harbor Patrol: (805) 564-5530

Maintenance: (805) 564-5522

Parking: (805) 564-5523

Fax: (805) 560-7580



Marina 4B Endtie Pile Demolition

By: Karl Treiberg, Waterfront Facilities Manager

Now you see them, now you don't. The Waterfront's dive team and SBCC Marine Tech divers recently removed over 20 rotten piles located off the Marina 4B endtie. For years, the dolphin piles (cluster of piles) provided moorage for the whale watching vessel *Rachel G* and prior to that, the research vessel *William A. McGaw*. Folks who have been around the harbor for a long time may even remember the research vessel *Swan* occupying this location in the harbor.

Like any material constantly exposed to the marine environment, the piles deteriorated and were falling apart. Some (visible at low tide) were pencil-thin at the waterline. Demolition was a complicated process requiring hard-hat diving, underwater chainsaws and commercial equipment supplying topside air and communications to the divers. The local utility vessel *Danny C* supported the deteriorated piles above the waterline while divers cut the piles at the mudline with an underwater chainsaw. The operation was safe and very efficient, and a fine demonstration of our dive team's capabilities.

The Waterfront is currently soliciting bids to install 16 steel piles in the general location of the old dolphin piles. The new steel piles will provide moorage for three 60'-90' boats. By comparison, the mooring area could only accommodate two vessels in its previous configuration. The berthing area will continue to be managed as leased space and is not part of the harbor slip inventory. Construction is tentatively scheduled for November – December 2007.

4th of July on West Beach

July 4th fireworks will be launched from West Beach at 9 p.m., the same time and location as last year. At the direction of City Council, this year's 20-minute display will not include loud salute shells ("ka-booms") that have drawn citizen complaints related to their impact on pets and people (especially war veterans) sensitive to loud noises. The salute shells will be replaced with additional color shells.

The non-profit group SPARKLE will again be involved in this year's show. Although they will not sponsor a private event on West Beach, they will coordinate food vendors on Cabrillo Boulevard and provide a stage with open (free) seating for a special concert performance by the 30-member U.S. Air Force Band of the Golden West from 7-9 p.m.

As always, certain regulations will be enforced to ensure a "safe and sane" July 4th celebration. That means no private fireworks, pit digging, dogs on the beach, open fires or parking adjacent to the railroad tracks.

For information on July 4th MTD bus and shuttle schedules, street closures and more, visit the City's website at www.santabarbaraca.gov or call 805-564-5418.

Independence Day Fireworks over Santa Barbara



Just Say "No" to Aquatic Hitchhikers

Aquatic invasive species (AIS) are a problem throughout the nation. From zebra mussels in the Great Lakes to Chinese Mitten Crabs in San Francisco Bay or Japanese Kelp in Santa Barbara Harbor, the incidence of non-native aquatic pests is on the rise. These alien invaders can erode shorelines, clog power-plant and public water supply intakes, smother seafloor habitats, foul boat hulls and displace native species.

In Santa Barbara Harbor we have undertaken four removal efforts since 2004 targeting Japanese Kelp (*Undaria pinnatifida*), which has established itself throughout the marinas. This summer Waterfront staff, with support from Santa Barbara Channelkeeper, NOAA and the California Department of Fish and Game, will request grant funds from the California Ocean Protection Council to hire an individual to spearhead a comprehensive *Undaria* removal program, like one that has operated successfully for years in Monterey Harbor. Hopefully, the project will start this fall and provide an important step toward managing *Undaria* and preventing its spread to the Channel Islands.

Meanwhile, there is much you, as a boater, can do to halt the spread of AIS:

- Replace copper-based anti-fouling bottom paint as soon as the copper is depleted.
- Clean your hull, underwater running gear and internal seawater systems before traveling beyond your home region, especially if you're visiting major ports, international waters, islands or events with boats from many places. Repeat before returning home or to another region.
- Drain live-wells, bait tanks and bilge water before and after travel.
- If your boat bottom is heavily fouled, haul it out for cleaning before travel and contain the removed fouling growth.
- Remove *Undaria* from your boat hull or docks where you see it, and throw it in the trash. Be sure to remove the plant's hold-fast whenever possible.

By following these simple guidelines, we can help stem the spread of AIS in Santa Barbara Harbor and beyond. This will help protect the environment and reduce AIS-associated impacts that include hull fouling, reduced fuel efficiency and impaired air quality from engines running harder to carry a "beard" of invasive hitchhikers on the boat's wetted surface.



Operator Certificate Bill for California Boaters "On Hold"

State legislation that would have mandated safety education for California boaters has been put "on hold" until the 2008 legislative session. Supported by boating groups, boating trade associations and the Coast Guard Auxiliary as a way to educate boaters about safe behavior on the water, the bill would have phased in a mandatory education and certification program beginning in 2011.

The legislation stalled this year, however, due to an impasse over its provisions, especially the potential inclusion of sailboats and human powered vessels like kayaks, rowboats and canoes.

"I think it is absolutely necessary that California have some type of safety certification requirement for boaters, and I am committed to carrying legislation to require this next year," said the bill's author, Michael Duvall (R-Brea). Currently, more than 30 states implement boating safety certification requirements. California is not among them.

Harbor Patrol Officers Save Choking Victim

On June 4th, Harbor Patrol Officers Erik Engebretson and Jan Martinez rushed to Moby Dick Restaurant on Stearns Wharf on a CODE BLUE-man not breathing. Upon arrival they found an unconscious 88-year-old slumped over a chair, making only slightly audible wheezing sounds. The man's wife said he was choking on his meal. Officer Engebretson performed three abdominal thrusts and dislodged a 2" piece of steak from the victim's airway. Officer Martinez administered high-flow oxygen and prepared the patient for transport. Their quick response and effective use of emergency medical training saved the man's life. This was the second choking victim that Harbor Patrol has saved in the past two years.

CLEAN MARINA CORNER

Operation Clean Sweep Hits Marina 4

By: Mick Kronman, Harbor Operations Manager



On Saturday, May 19th a volunteer corps of 15 divers and 25 dock workers spearheaded the second annual Operation Clean Sweep, a seafloor debris removal project in Marina 4. This year's effort matched last year's haul of 4,000 pounds of seafloor junk from Marina 3. Removed items included bicycles, trash cans, barbecues, crab traps, cell phones, a BB rifle, a computer, a boat liner and an old abalone culturing device. Volunteers included Santa Barbara Channelkeeper, NOAA, Maritime Museum, MNS Engineering, Surfrider Foundation, Channel Island Diving and Salty Dog Dive Service. In addition, local sea urchin fishermen contributed time, boats and lifting apparatus to heft larger items off the seafloor. Next year it's on to Marina 2, as the Department continues its 10-year plan to remove junk that has accumulated on the harbor seafloor. If you wish to participate in next year's event (May 2008) contact Mick Kronman, Harbor Operations Manager, at 805-897-2587 or {mkronman@santabarbaraca.gov}.



Humans and Birds - A Delicate Mix

By: Monica Broumand, Harbor Patrol Officer

Summer is here, a time when encounters between people and the endangered brown pelican and other seabirds are more frequent. Unknowing visitors and fishermen often feed birds, attracting them to harm's way. Birds get tangled in monofilament fishing line and hooks, and the results range from traumatic to deadly. Dogs are also a threat to birds and need to be leashed and kept off City beaches.

Harbor Patrol, along with Waterfront Department maintenance staff, the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG), local merchants and the Wildlife Care Network (WCN) work to reduce these interactions. Wardens watch for malicious treatment of birds. Harbor maintenance workers and Harbor Patrol officers "sweep" the Stearns Wharf and breakwater in search of stray line and hooks (recycling barrels for monofilament line are available on the Wharf). Stearns Wharf merchants educate visitors about avoiding contact with birds. Harbor Patrol and City Police enforce local laws prohibiting dogs on the beach and the WCN attends to injured birds, rehabilitating them whenever possible.

The Department's longstanding "Bird Education Program" includes signs on Stearns Wharf and the breakwater that show anglers how to protect seabirds and detail the consequences of harming seabirds, which are protected under state and federal law. The Department has also produced brochures that offer bird-protection tips (in Spanish and English) for fishermen, such as:

- Never feed birds
- Never attempt to pet birds
- Keep all food covered
- Don't leave bare hooks exposed
- Use barbless hooks or artificial lures whenever possible
- Use caution when casting; don't dangle bait or hooked fish
- Don't leave trash behind; clean up after fishing
- Don't discard monofilament line; recycle it or dispose of it in appropriate containers
- Keep dogs leashed and off City beaches
- Immediately report all bird injuries to Harbor Patrol (564-5530) or the Wildlife Care Network (563-3636)

Please remember these tips so we can all enjoy a diverse waterfront, where boating, fishing and wildlife thrive.



Lost Fishing Gear Removal Project

In partnership with state and federal agencies, the SeaDoc Society at the University of California, Davis Wildlife Health Center launched the California Lost Fishing Gear Removal Project last July. Without assessing fault or blame, the project encourages ocean users to report lost fishing gear, and hires experienced SCUBA divers to remove gear from near-shore waters.

In April 2007, project coordinators conducted five days of fishing gear removal at the Channel Islands. Commercial fishermen, using standard SCUBA gear, surveyed and removed two purse seine nets, a portion of a drift gill net and several lost lobster traps.

A total of 3,540 pounds of debris was retrieved during the 5-day effort. In March, this project also utilized volunteer divers to clean the Goleta Pier. In addition, Santa Barbara Channel-keeper installed two fishing line recycling bins on the pier, collecting over 1,000 feet of line from these bins to date.

If you come across lost fishing gear, please contact project coordinators online at www.lostfishinggear.org or call 1-888-491-GEAR. They are interested in locating all lost fishing gear, especially gear lying in depths up to 100 feet. Anonymous tips are welcomed.



Unauthorized Access to Marinas and Restrooms

By: Steve McCullough, Harbor Patrol Supervisor

Walking to the marina with groceries and duffle in hand, you are met by two young men loitering at the gate. Waiving your fob at the key-pad, the gate unlocks and you pass through. The two men walk in behind you. You're thinking, hmmm-Who are these guys? Will they pillage the *M/V Liquid Asset*, party on the *S/V Wet Martini*, or take the *T/T Island Bound* on a joy ride? What to do? I left my cell phone in the car. I know. I'll call Harbor Patrol from my boat's VHF radio!

Facing this situation you have several options:

- Strike up a conversation, asking; "Do you have a boat in the marina? Are you meeting someone? Can I help you find them?"
- If you're uncomfortable with their answers or something just doesn't seem right, get a good description of the individuals and try to watch where they go.
- Call Harbor Patrol and describe the subjects as best you can. Note clothing type and color, height, build, hair length and color, or anything else that catches your eye. An officer will respond, identify the subjects, guide them to their destination or escort them out of the marina (with a citation if warranted).
- Don't hold open the gate for strangers.

Remember, access to the marinas is for slip permittees and their invited guests. When inviting guests to your boat, set a time or have them call you to meet you at the gate when they arrive. This is a good way to avoid the discussion during your evening sail about why they were questioned by Harbor Patrol.

Harbor Patrol monitors VHF channels 16 and 12 around the clock. They can be reached while on patrol (foot, vehicle or boat) by the 911 dispatcher. Harbor Patrol business office number is 564-5530. Don't hesitate to call.

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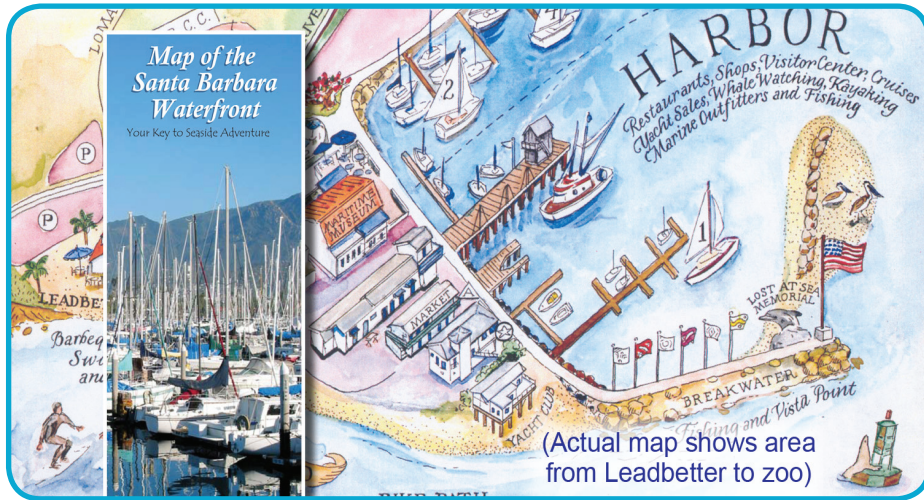
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City of Santa Barbara Waterfront Department

P.O. Box 1990, Santa Barbara, CA 93102



New Waterfront Visitors' Brochure Nears Completion

This Spring the Waterfront Department embarked on a project to replace the current Waterfront Visitors Brochure (designed in 1996) with an updated, more elegant design. The new brochure uses thumbnail profiles to focus attention on Waterfront businesses that cater to visitors and features a watercolor map by local artist Janice Blair. Janice has published maps for Lotusland, Montecito Magazine, Solvang Visitors Center and the Ojai Valley Inn and Spa.

The design team has written a narrative introducing visitors to the Santa Barbara Waterfront and drawing attention to various activity centers found here. The profiles help visitors plan activities, shopping, and dining. The brochure will be available on the City's website later this summer and 100,000 new brochures should be on-hand for distribution by July. Distribution points include the Harbormaster's Office, Santa Barbara Chamber of Commerce Visitors Center, local hotels and merchants and City Hall. It will also be available at hotels, airports and visitor centers in Ventura and Santa Barbara counties and in the San Fernando Valley.



Santa Barbara Harbor and Seafood Festival's Sixth Year!

An event you don't want to miss, the 2007 Santa Barbara Harbor and Seafood Festival, is just around the corner. So, save the date. Saturday, October 13th promises to again rock the Waterfront with a cornucopia of delights, including the legendary albacore barbeque, boiling pots of lobster and crab, a clam chowder booth, boat rides, Maritime Museum tours, seafood cooking demonstrations, arts and crafts, live music and more. Ask anyone who's attended in the past. This is an event you won't want to miss!

Harbor Commission Dates:

July: 7/19/2007

August: 8/16/2007

September: 9/20/2007

Harbor Commission meets the third Thursday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in City Council Chambers